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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/771,863	01/29/2001	William Fuller	12665.47	7795

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DALLAS, TX 75202

EXAMINER

CHAMPAGNE, DONALD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3622

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/771,863

Applicant(s)

FULLER ET AL.

Examiner

Donald L. Champagne

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Lightfoot et al. in view of Logan et al.
3. Lightfoot et al teaches (independent claims 1, 8 and 13) a method and server program for distributing multimedia programming to *digital entertainment terminals 100* (col. 7 lines 34-35), which reads on distributing software to a computer, the method comprising: coupling at least one advertisement to the software (col. 9 line 18); providing (transmitting and downloading) the programming/software with the coupled advertisement to the computer for installation (col. 9 lines 19-25 and 29-31), and allowing the programming/software to be used on the *DET/computer* in conjunction with the advertisement (col. 4 lines 47-55 and col. col. 9 line 18); recording/posting said usage data usage data to an external medium (*the level 2 gateway*, col. 9 lines 27-29), and continuing to allow the programming/software to be used.
4. Lightfoot et al. does not teach recording the usage data on the computer. Logan et al. teaches recording the usage on the *player 103/computer* (col. 3 lines 1-9). Because it can be best, with high usage rates, for example, to store data locally with infrequent uploads, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to add the teachings of Logan et al. to those of Lightfoot et al.
5. The references also teach claim 8, where "the first aspect of software" and "a second aspect of the software" are respectively first and second sessions of programming/software. For claim 13, a second session of programming/software reads on "updating the software with a second advertisement and re-enabling the software".

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6. Lightfoot et al. also teaches at the citations given above claims 6, 7, 9-11 and 15. For claims 6 and 7 respectively, the limitations "associated with an advertiser" and "affiliated with a financial institution" are nonfunctional descriptive matter. See MPEP 2106.IV.B.1(b), first paragraph.
7. Lightfoot et al. also teaches claim 2, and claims 3-5 respectively at col. 5 lines 23-26, col. 17 lines 7-13 and col. 5 lines 32-36.
8. Lightfoot et al. does not teach (claims 12 and 14) uncoupling the advertisement from the software upon receipt of the payment. Logan et al. teaches permitting the user to trade-off between fee paid and amount of advertising accepted, if any (col. 9 lines 5-11), which reads on uncoupling the advertisement from the software upon receipt of the payment.

Conclusion

9. **COPY of REFERENCES** - Applicant is entitled to receive a copy of every reference cited by the examiner (except at allowance; MPEP 707.05(a)). Applicant should contact the examiner if a completed form PTO-892 is enclosed, but the cited references are not.
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donald L Champagne whose telephone number is 703-308-3331. The examiner can normally be reached from 6:30 AM to 5 PM ET, Monday to Thursday. The examiner can also be contacted by e-mail at donald.champagne@uspto.gov, and *informal* fax communications (i.e., communications not to be made of record) may be sent directly to the examiner at 703-746-5536.
11. The examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber, can be reached on 703-305-8469. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.
12. **ABANDONMENT** – If examiner cannot by telephone verify applicant's intent to continue prosecution, the application is subject to abandonment six months after mailing of the last Office action. The agent, attorney or applicant point of contact is responsible for assuring that the Office has their telephone number. Agents and attorneys may verify their registration information including telephone number at the Office's web site, www.uspto.gov.

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At the top of the home page, click on Site Index. Then click on Agent & Attorney Roster in the alphabetic list, and search for your registration by your name or number.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald L. Champagne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the bottom of the name.

Donald L. Champagne
Examiner
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18 March 2004